Setting up an Alumina Project in Andhra Pradesh

*280. SHRI R. SAMBA SIVA RAO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has held discussions with the Soviet officials on the proposal for setting up of an Alumina plant in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) and (b) In 1980, the Soviets prepared a Feasibility Report for an Alumina Plant in Andhra Pradesh. Subsequently, in 1982, a techno-economic note for an export oriented bauxite mine was also prepared. Several issues involved, including financing the project and its product export to USSR, on long-term basis, have been under discussion at various levels. Discussions were held by the Soviet dignitaries with Minister of Steel & Mines in January, 1984 and July, 1984. The discussions were of an exploratory nature. The matter would be further discussed at the next meeting of the Indo-Soviet Joint Commission.

Capitation Fees in Karnataka

†1667. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has submitted a Bill to the Central Government for President's assent with regard to the charging of capitation fees in medical colleges in that State, if so, since when it has been pending; and

(b) what are the reasons for keeping the Bill pending till date?

†Previously Unstarred Question No. 1005, transferred from the 1st August, 1984.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b) The Karnataka Educational Institutions (Prohibition of Capitation Fee) Bill, 1984 was received in this Ministry on April 18, 1984 and has since been assented to by the President on July 20, 1984.

Torture in Police custody

1668. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India figures as one of the countries which indulge in torture in police custody, in the Amnesty International reports, if so, what are the details of such cases; and

(b) whether Government on the basis of reports available with them on widespread torture methods used by the Indian Police propose to take steps to stop third degree methods as a routine method for obtainging confessions from suspects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) India figures in an Amnesty International report titled 'Torture in the Eighties'. Killings of naxalites; deaths in police custody; deaths in fake encounters; Bhagalpur jail blindings and certain other cases have been mentioned.

(b) Any recourse to third degree methods in the course of investigation of crimes has been frowned upon by the Central Government and the State Governments. Government of India have, from time to time, advised the State Governments to ask the police to shun such methods and adopt scientific methods of investigation.

Police Atrocities in Ambala Cantt.

1669. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn by the People's